SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



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Senate Bill No. 962

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Presidential Decree No. 1569 was issued in 1978 to strengthen the country's nutrition program by initiating a project that will provide for a barangay nutrition worker in every barangay. This enactment has for its primary purpose the establishment of a network reaching the grassroots level that will address the problem of malnutrition. But even while this program is instrumental in the significant reduction of malnutrition in recent years, a large percentage of the population still do not get enough to eat. Hence, there is still a need to further strengthen the agency responsible for implementing the mandate of bringing about a well-nourished population — that is economically productive, socially active thus capable of contributing significantly to national development.

This bill provides for the creation and filing up of one mandatory position of Barangay Nutrition Worker in every barangay. It further seeks to professionalize the position of BNW by requiring the qualification be at least a high school graduate.

Approval of this bill is therefore most earnestly urged.

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JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA



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Senate Bill No. 962

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

AN ACT

CREATING THE POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY PROVIDING INCENTIVES THERETO, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1569

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Presidential Decree numbered fifteen hundred sixty-nine (P.D. No. 1569) entitled "Strengthening the Barangay Nutrition Program by proving for a Nutrition Scholar in Every Barangay" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. BARANGAY NUTRITION PROGRAM. To strengthen the Barangay Nutrition Program, there shall be CREATED under the administration and SUPERVISION of the NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL IN COORDINATION WITH THE CITY or MUNICIPALITY and the BARANGAY, ONE (1) MANDATORY POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY WITH A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE OF NOT LESS THAN TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00).

"SECTION 2. BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER. The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAJORITY OF ALL SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OR THE SANGGUNIANG Panlunsod MEMBERS, THE SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY CONCERNED AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL. The barangay nutrition worker shall be responsible for delivering nutrition services and other related activities such as community health, backyard food production, environmental sanitation, culture, supplemental feeding and family planning to the barangay.

"SECTION 3. SERVICES. The barangay nutrition worker, while (continuously learning) UNDERGOING ACTUAL TRAINING under this program, shall serve the barangay on a voluntary basis for at least a (period of one year) SIX MONTHS. THEREAFTER, THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL SHALL ASSESS HIS/HER

PERFORMANCE AND MAKE THE NECESSARY RECOMMENDATION FOR HIS/HER APPOINTMENT.

"SECTION 4. QUALIFICATION. The qualifications of a Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be as follows:

- a. Bonafide resident of the barangay for at least one (1) year, with ability to speak the dialect;
- b. Possession of leadership potentials and the initiative and willingness to serve the barangay (for at least one year);
- c. Willingness to learn and to teach what he/she learned to the barangay people;
- d. At least a (primary) HIGHSCHOOL graduate;
- e. Physical and mental fitness and;
- f. At least eighteen (18) years old but not more than sixty (60) years old.

"SECTION 5. RECRUITMENT. The barangay nutrition worker shall be recruited from within the barangay and shall be tested on mental ability and proper work attitude.

"SECTION 6. TRAINING. Before actual barangay service, the barangay nutrition worker shall undergo a ten-day training on selected topics such as nutrition, health, food production and environmental sanitation, based on defined task expectations to be conducted by a provincial training team in coordination with the municipal and barangay nutrition committee. This training shall be supplemented by a twenty-day practicum to be conducted in the barangay where the worker is assigned, and such activity shall be in coordination with the local training team.

"SECTION 7. BENEFITS. The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be entitled to a training stipend, meal and travel allowance of at least P120.00 a day. DURING THE PERIOD OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE PRIOR TO HIS/HER APPOINTMENT, THEY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO ALLOWANCE OF ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000.00) A MONTH.

"The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be granted a civil service eligibility equivalent to second grade after the completion of at least two (2) years of continuous and satisfactory service in the barangay.

"SECTION 8. INCENTIVES. TO FURTHER ENHANCE THE PROGRAM. THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL, IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL FORMULATE A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WHERE INCUMBENT AND DESERVING BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKERS SHALL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO AVAIL OF A SCHOLARSHIP GRANT IN ANY STATE COLLEGE OR